

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ISTANB 03764 241004Z

15

ACTION PPTE-00

INFO OCT-01 SCA-01 ISO-00 /002 W
----- 088575

R 240847Z SEP 76
FM AMCONSUL ISTANBUL
TO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 8061
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMCONSUL ADANA
AMCONSUL IZMIR

UNCLAS ISTANBUL 3764

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: CPAS, TU
SUBJ: ISSUANCE OF GREEK VISAS FOR AMERICAN TRAVELING WITH
DIPLOMATIC OR OFFICIAL PASSPORTS

REF: STATE 212013

1. SEPTEMBER 22 GREEK CONGEN, ISTANBUL, INFORMED US THAT IT WAS
NOT AUTHORIZED TO PLACE VISAS IN OFFICIAL AND DIPLOMATIC US
PASSPORTS. ACCORDING TO GREEK CONOFF, ALL SUCH VISAS MUST BE
ISSUED IN ANKARA IN ACCORDANCE WITH INSTRUCTIONS RECEIVED FROM
GREEK EMBASSY, ANKARA.

2. CONSEQUENCE OF THIS POLICY IS THAT ALL AMERICANS CARRYING
DIPLOMATIC AND OFFICIAL PASSPORTS WHO WISH TO TRAVEL TO GREECE
MUST EITHER GO TO ANKARA IN PERSON OR SEND PASSPORT TO EMBASSY
AND AWAIT PASSPORT'S RETURN BY MAIL. IN EITHER CASE APPLICANTS
WILL BE SUBJECT TO INCONVENIENCE AND LONG DELAY.

3. CONSUL GENERAL IS SEEKING EARLY APPOINTMENT WITH GREEK
CONSUL GENERAL TO DISCUSS SITUATION. HOWEVER, UNDERSTAND
AMEMBASSY ANKARA HAS DISCUSSED PROBLEM BY TELEPHONE
WITH AMEMBASSY ATHENS WHICH INFORM THAT GREEK POLICY BEING
APPLIED HERE IS WORLDWIDE AND APPLIES TO ALL DIPLOMATIC AND
OFFICIAL PASSPORTS IN WHICH GREEK VISAS ARE REQUIRED.

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